Country - Austria

Subject - Copper, Aluminum, Lead, Zinc Production

Place Acquired - 25X1A

Date Acquired -

Date of Information April 53

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Copper

Source

- 1. The nationalized copper mining enterprise of Mitterberger Kupferbergbau comprises two plants at Mittelbach and Buchberg respectively. The company reports that its output in 1952 was 132,000 tons of ore containing about 2% copper, which resulted in the production of 9,240 tons of copper concentrate containing 28.5% copper. The 1953 production should amount to about 170,000 tons of ore, yielding some 10,800 tons of concentrate. The concentrates are passed on to the Montanwerken metallurgical works in Brixlegg, in the Tyrol, for smelting.
- 2. The Kupferhutte Brixlegg electrolysis plant, owned by Alpine Montangesellschaft; forms part of the large Montanwerke complex in Brixlegg in the Tyrol. This plant was opened 1 June 53. The whole capacity of the Montanwerke complex in Brixlegg is now 12,000 tons. Apart from the new plant, the works include a modern extraction furnace for the reduction of copper ore and a Wirebar plant for the smelting of copper cathodes.

Aluminum

- 3. There are no alumina plants in Austria. The two aluminum smelting plants must import their alumina material.
- 4. The two aluminum smelting plants are:
 - (a) Salzburger Aluminium -Gesellschaft, Lend, Salzburg. Capacity: 9000 tons per year.
 - (b) Vereinigte Aluminium-Werke Aktiengesellschaft. Braunau am Inn and Unterlaussa in Ranshofen.

 Capacity: 50,000 tons per year.

Lead and Zinc

The leading Austrian producer of lead and zinc is Bleiberger Bergwerks-Union, Radetzkystrasse 2, Klagenfurt, Carinthia. The mines are located at Bleiberg-Kreuth in Carinthia. The ore is 4-5% lead and about 3-4% zinc, yielding concentrates of 75% lead and 60% zinc respectively. Some molybdenum ore is also mined. The approximate annual production rate is 5000 tons of lead and 5000 tons of zinc. The company's smelting plants are in Gailitz. The zinc-electrolyzer under construction there should be ready for production by 1954.

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